

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OPR-02 AID-05 PC-01 EB-07 IO-10 CU-02 COME-00

LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DHA-02 SCCT-01 SCS-03 SY-05

SSO-00 (ISO) W

----- 076509

P R 251417Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5611

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

USCINCEUR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ADDIS ABABA 8980

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS ET

SUBJECT: RISING TENSION AND INCIDENTS

1. EMBASSY NOW (JULY 25) RECEIVING INDICATIONS THAT CAPITAL'S POLICE FORCE GOING ON DOUBLE SHIFTS APPARENTLY IN PREPARATION FOR URBAN LAND REFORM PROCLAMATION WHICH, WE ARE TOLD BY GOOD SOURCES, SHOULD COME OUT TOMORROW. DAO IS SEPARATELY REPORTING ALERTING OF 4TH DIVISION 4TH BRIGADE ELEMENTS ALSO APPARENTLY AS A PRE-CAUTIONARY MOVE IN CONNECTION WITH THIS PROCLAMATION.

2. ECA, BRITISH EMBASSY, AND THIS EMBASSY (OTHERS WILL NO DOUBT FOLLOW) HAVE ASKED THEIR STAFFS/AND NATIONAL COMMUNITIES TO FOREGO UNNECESSARY TRAVEL AND STICK CLOSE TO HOME THIS WEEKEND.

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3. GROUPS OF YOUNG PEOPLE INCLUDING ZEMATCH HAVE BEEN MORE VISIBLE

IN ADDIS LAST SEVERAL DAYS THAN HERETOFORE. THEY SEEM RESTIVE.
TODAY THERE WAS DEMONSTRATION BY APPROXIMATELY 150 ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL TEACHERS AND PRINCIPALS WHO MARCHED ON OLD GHIBBE IN THE
MORNING. FRIEND AMONG THEM TOLD FSL THAT THEY ARE PROTESTING "CAPI-
TALIST" CURRICULUM PREPARED BY HSIU FOR SUMMER SEMINAR. THEY CON-
TEND THIS CURRICULUM IS IN CONFLICT WITH SPIRIT OF "ETHIOPIA
TIKDEM." DEMONSTRATORS ARE DEMANDING CHANGES IN CURRICULUM BUT
HSIU AUTHORITIES STATE THEY CANNOT ACCEDE TO THESE DEMANDS.
REPORTEDLY, 2100 TEACHERS AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DIRECTORS ENROLLED
IN THESE SUMMER SEMINARS HAVE NOW WALKED OUT. WE ARE TOLD THAT
CURRICULUM CONTROVERSY CURRENTLY BEING DISCUSSED BETWEEN ADDIS
TEACHERS UNION, MIN. INTERIOR REPS AND DIRG.

4. WE HAVE REPORT WE BELIEVE RELIABLE OF INCIDENT OUTSIDE BONGA, A
TOWN SOUTHWEST OF JIMMA. INCIDENT, DETAILS OF WHICH STILL UNAVAIL-
ABLE, SAID HAVE LED TO DEATH OF FIVE ZEMATCHOCH JULY 24 PRESUMABLY
"AT HANDS OF LOCAL LANDLORDS." AS RESULT, TOWN OF JIMMA SAID BE
WRACKED TODAY BY ANTI-EPMG STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS.

5. ASMARA CONTINUING TO REPORT HIGH STATE OF TENSION IN CITY.
HUMMEL

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